

REMARKS

Reconsideration and the timely allowance of the pending claims, in view of the following remarks, are respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action of August 10, 2006, the Examiner rejected claims 9, 18, and 19, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as allegedly being anticipated by Lynch '423 (U.S. Patent No. 5,438,423) in view of Miki '481 (U.S. Patent No. 5,107,481).

By this Amendment, claims 9 and 18 have been amended to provide a clearer presentation of the claimed subject matter and new claim 20 has been added. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced. As such, claims 9 and 18-20 are currently presented for examination of which claims 9 and 18 are the sole independent claims.

Applicants respectfully traverse the prior art rejections, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), for the following reasons.

I. Prior Art Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

As indicated above, amended independent claim 9 positively recites, *inter alia*, the use of a time slip mode that enables reproduction of the input signal being recorded or compensates for information for a period in which a temporary interruption occurs. Claim 9 also positively recites that, when the time slip mode is entered and subsequent reproducing processing is performed, effecting a fast forward operation or a fast reverse operation in the reproducing processing. These features are amply supported by the embodiments described in the Specification. (*See*, Original Specification, page 25, line 16 – page 26, line 13; FIGs. 6-8).

In contrast to the Examiner's assertions, there is nothing in the asserted references that teach all of the elements recited in claim 1, including the features indicated above. In particular, the Lynch '423 reference discloses that a viewer may give via the remote control unit 28 a pause command to the control circuitry 26, which causes the current address for the dynamic buffer 16 to be stored in a pause register 34, suspending further read out from the dynamic buffer 16 for the display circuitry 20, with the video frame of the video program at the pause address being displayed as a still frame. Then, when the viewer returns after the interruption, the viewer may give via the remote control unit 28 a continue command to the

control unit 26 so that the dynamic buffer 16 reads out the video program in a delayed, real-time fashion from the pause address. Such continuation of the video may be viewed at any desired rate, real-time, slow motion or fast forward, and in either direction, forward or reverse. (*See, Lynch '423*, col. 3, lines 1-16).

In so doing, *Lynch '423* fails to teach or suggest that when the time slip mode is entered and subsequent reproducing processing is performed, effecting a fast forward operation or a fast reverse operation in the reproducing processing, as required by claim 9.

Applicants further submit that the *Miki '481* reference fails to both cure the deficiencies of the *Lynch '423* reference identified above as well as teach each and every element of the claimed invention in its own right. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicants submit that none of these references, whether taken alone or in reasonable combination, teach the claimed combination of elements recited by amended claim 9. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over the references. And, because new claim 20 depends from claim 9, claim 20 is also patentable by virtue of dependency as well as for its additional recitations. Accordingly, Applicants request the immediate withdrawal of the prior art rejections of claims 9 and 20.

Moreover, because independent claim 18 recites features that are similar to the patentable features discussed above regarding claim 9, claim 18 is also patentable for the same reasons presented above. And, because claim 19 depends from independent claim 18, claim 19 is patentable at least by virtue of dependency as well as for their additional recitations. Accordingly, Applicants request the immediate withdrawal of the prior art rejections of claims 18-19.

II. Conclusion.

All matters having been addressed and in view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully request the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the immediate allowance of all pending claims.

Applicant's Counsel remains ready to assist the Examiner in any way to facilitate and expedite the prosecution of this matter. If any point remains in issue in which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, please contact the Undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number **03-3975**. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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